

Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0025

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # D-097 - Sewage Treatment Plant Primary
Sediment Tank {Historic}
Property Date: 1954
Address(s): Reeder Road {Current}
County/Independent City: Accomack
Vicinity of: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: CHINCOTEAGUE WEST
Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Concrete	other

Site Description: Located within the Sewage Treatment Plant complex on north side of Reeder Road. Site slopes down from the west and towards the east and north. The structure abuts D-12C.

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Public Works	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Public Works

<u>Est. Date of Construction:</u>	1954 {Owner/written data}	<u>Accessed?</u>	Yes
<u>Primary Resource?</u>	Yes	<u>Number of Stories:</u>	0.0
<u>Architectural Style:</u>	Other	<u>Condition:</u>	Good-Fair
<u>Interior Plan Type:</u>	Other	<u>Threats to Resource:</u>	Deterioration Neglect

Description: This structure, a rectangular-shaped tank made of poured concrete, was built as an addition to the west side of the Primary Sediment Tank (001-0027-0018, WFF # D-012C). While the structures share a south wall, this resource does not extend as far to the north as the adjoining tank. It has been sunken into the ground so that the top is even with or slightly raised above grade. The structure is arranged in three sections. Each section is open from above; however, the southern and northern sections are much smaller than the center section (which contains the main body of the tank) and are covered with metal grates. The south section is shallow and separated from the main tank by a slotted wall. The main tank has two concrete piers which span the space between the west and east walls. A motor assembly on the south end connects to an axle that also spans the east and west walls. The axle turns two gears, which are each attached to a chain system that holds a series of wood planks used to stir the sediment. The chains surround a track system that directs the wood planks. The chain and tracks run just below the upper edge of the wall down the far end walls and along the bottom length. Like the southern section, the third, northern section is shallow and contains a drainpipe that extends from the east wall to the center of the section.

Cemetery Information

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Bridge Information

National Register Eligibility Information

Historic Context(s): Military/Defense

Historic Time Period(s):..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

Significance Statement: This structure, built in 1954, was constructed as part of the second phase of development of the sewage treatment plant. The plant was one of two such complexes built on Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS) during World War II. The structure abuts the west side of another Primary Sediment Tank (001-0027-0018, WFF # D-012C) and is located just southwest of the Sewage and Waste Disposal Pump House (001-0027-0015, WFF # D-012).

The utilitarian structure is a component of a sewage treatment plant constructed during the New Dominion (1945 – present) period. The treatment plant was built to service CNAAS. Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the U.S. Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the U.S. Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility, with a primarily-research based mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the base was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station. Although it does not appear to be in use currently, the structure has essentially retained its original use throughout its history on the base. The Sewage Treatment Plant Primary Sediment Tank has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

As an individual resource, it is not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D as it is not associated with a significant event or individual at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The Sewage Treatment Plant Primary Sediment Tank retains its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Although remaining in its historic location, the structure's integrity of setting and association has been adversely affected by the changes made to the surrounding environment of the base of which it was a part; by 2004, the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the structure's historic context.

Bibliographic Documentation

**Department of Historic Resources
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Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: Giffels and Valet

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1950.

Reference #: 3

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21528	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 10-11
35mm B&W	21541	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 24-27

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event # 1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2004/07/99

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

CRM Event # 2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2003/08/08

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814